

Remarks

The amendment to Claim 1 is intended to better distinguish the subject matter sought to be patented from the cited prior art. Basis for this amendment can be found in the Specification (see page 1, line 16 through page 2, lines 1-27) and the Examples and in the wording of the claims as originally filed and, as such, it is felt that the amendment does not constitute the introduction of new matter.

At present, Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over a patent issued to Wang et al. (US 5,599,877).

Reconsideration of this final rejection is requested.

In asserting the above rejection Office Action identifies Wang et al. and proceeds to analyze the claims in view of a broad interpretation of "alloy" and the lack of a morphological distinction being recited in the claims. In response Claim 1 is now amended to acknowledge the presence of "an ionomer/polyamide alloy consisting of from 40 to 60 parts by weight ionomer phase and from 60 to 40 parts by weight continuous or co-continuous semicrystalline polyamide phase". Clearly, this distinguishes the subject matter sought to be patented from the teaching found in the Wang et al. reference. In view of this difference it is felt that there is a basis for the withdrawal of the §103 rejection of Claims 1-6 and such action is requested.

In view of the above amendment to Claim 1 and brief remarks, it is felt that all claims are now allowable and such action is requested. Should the Examiner believe that an interview or other action in Applicant's behalf would expedite prosecution of the application, the Examiner is urged to contact Applicant's attorney by telephone at (302) 992-6824.

Respectfully submitted,

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